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ABSTRACT

This dissertation is concerned with racial discrimination as a central issue in urban planning. Although primarily concerned with black opportunities in housing, the study investigates Negro opportunities in related areas (education, income, and employment) in order to develop the linkages and interdependencies between the various aspects of equal opportunity. In each area, the opportunities available to doday's black population are determined by comparing: (1) opportunities in metropolitan (and particularly central city) areas with those available elsewhere to determine whether the urbanization of blacks is providing the means for upward mobility; (2) opportunities available to blacks in earlier decades with those now available to ascertain whether blacks are in fact improving their absolute position over time; and (3) opportunities afforded blacks and whites, it being recognized that the term "inequality" is generally used in its racial context. In analyzing the housing opportunities of metropolitan area blacks, the dissertation explores housing quality, quantity, cost, and overcrowding. Particular attention is devoted to residential segregation. The purpose of the entire analysis is to establish a suitable foundation for making recommendations designed to maximize black opportunities and to relate these recommended policies to urban planning. (Author/JM)

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EQUAL OPPORTUNITY AND THE URBAN BLACK:
An Analysis of Public Policy and Its Implications for Urban Planning
(Abstract and Bibliography)

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(From a dissertation submitted in partial fulfillment
of the requirements for the degree of
Doctor of Philosophy
University of Washington,
1973).

Chairman of Supervisory Committee:
Professor Arthur L. Grey
Department of Urban Planning

This dissertation is concerned with racial discrimination as a central issue in urban planning. By synthesizing and integrating material from several disciplines--law, economics, sociology and social work, education and others--the study analyzes opportunities available to urban blacks and relates them to public policy and the theory and practice of urban planning.

Although primarily concerned with black opportunities in housing, the study investigates Negro opportunities in related areas (education, income and employment) in order to develop the linkages and interdependencies between the various aspects of equal opportunity. In each case, the opportunities available to today's black population are determined by comparing:

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1) opportunities in metropolitan (and particularly central city) areas with those available elsewhere to determine whether the articulation of blacks is providing the means for upward mobility;

2) opportunities available to blacks in earlier decades with those now available to ascertain whether blacks are in fact improving their absolute position over time; and

3) opportunities afforded blacks and whites. It being recognized that the term "inequality" is generally used in this racial context.

From this three-way analysis, the following generalized conclusions emerge: (1) blacks in metropolitan areas have better access to adequate housing, education, income and employment than do blacks in non-metropolitan areas; (2) the opportunities of urban blacks has improved over time, with one important exception--residential segregation is increasing; (3) black opportunities are increasing more rapidly than white, but because of the considerable gap obtaining between the races, equality of opportunity and of socio-economic status remains a distant goal.

In analyzing the housing opportunities of metropolitan area blacks, the discussion explores housing quality, quantity, and its concomitants. Particular attention is devoted to residential segregation. First, the nature of residential segregation is examined and the widespread extent of this practice is established. Second, various theories on the cause of segregation are investigated, including attitudes of blacks and whites and the roles played by public and private institutions; the relative importance of each determined. Finally, effects of residential segregation on economic, black opportunities in housing, education, employment and income are analyzed. Conclusions reached pertaining to the extent, causes and effects of residential segregation are these:

3.

[illegible]

1) [illegible]

2) [illegible]

3) [illegible]

4) [illegible]

5) [illegible]

The purpose of the urban diversity project is to articulate a realistic foundation for policy recommendations designed to maximize black opportunities and to relate these recommended policies to urban planning. The study advanced a policy [illegible] residential integration and plural employment, in the belief that the two constitute a more productive approach than either alone for providing the greatest opportunities to the largest number of [illegible].

In order that urban planning can contribute to [illegible] plural improvement, the study identifies methods for accomplishing these goals. Included are the evaluation of exclusionary controls, the role of metropolitan planning, prospects for planned unit developments and new towns and changes needed in the comprehensive planning process.

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